

ABSOLUTE

# SUPERMAN



ALL IN

15+  
TEEN 7



HELP US!  
PLEASE!

SOMEONE,  
ANYONE--

--HELP  
US!

AARON  
DI GIANDOMENICO  
ARREOLA



# SUPERMAN UNLIMITED



ALL IN

IT'S A NEW DAY FOR  
THE MAN OF STEEL—  
AND THE DC UNIVERSE  
WILL NEVER BE THE SAME!

© & TM DC.

Written by  
**DAN SLOTT**

Art and cover by  
**RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE**

A new  
ongoing series  
starting in  
**MAY**



# NEVADA DESERT.

STRIKEFORCE  
TO PRIMUS. HAVE  
BREACHED THE  
COMPOUND. GOING  
RADIO SILENT.

SYNCHRONIZING  
CORTEXES.

BAD  
FEELING. BAD  
FEELING ABOUT--

OMEGAS,  
KEEP YOUR  
IMPLANTS CLEAR  
OF EMO  
STATIC.

NO SIGNS OF  
LIFE. FACILITY  
APPEARS  
DESERTED.

THE KIND  
OF POWER THIS  
PLACE PULLS FROM  
THE GRID, THEY  
MUST BE HIDING  
SOMETHING HERE.  
SOMETHING  
BIG.

IF IT'S  
THE SERVER  
CLUSTER THAT  
RUNS THE **BRAINIAC**  
**ALGORITHM**, THERE'S  
NO WAY LAZARUS  
LEAVES THE PLACE  
UNGUARDED. SO  
STAY ALERT.

FIND THAT  
SERVER. SHUT  
DOWN BRAINIAC.  
NOTHING CAN STOP  
THE **OMEGA MEN**!  
THINK IT WITH ME,  
AGENTS.

NOTHING  
CAN--

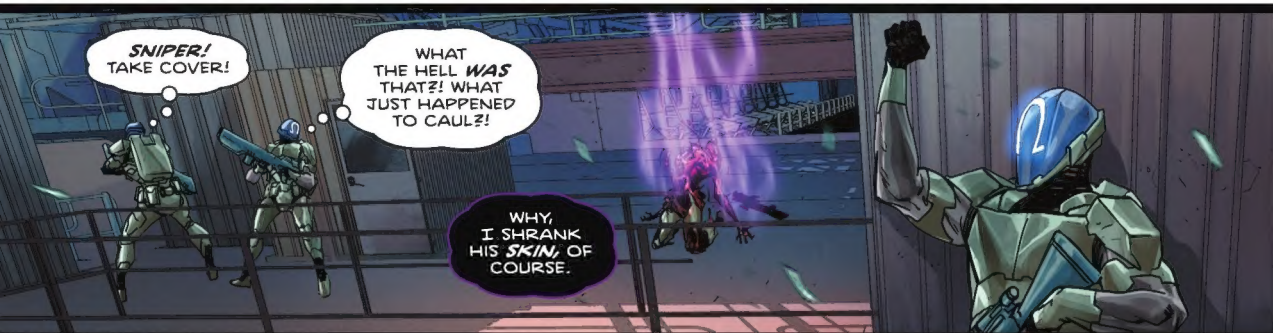
ZZZZKT





HOHKK...  
GGAHKK...

AAAAAAA  
AAHRRRGCH!



**SNIPER!**  
TAKE COVER!

WHAT  
THE HELL **WAS**  
THAT?! WHAT  
JUST HAPPENED  
TO CAUL?

WHY,  
I SHRANK  
HIS **SKIN**, OF  
COURSE.



WHO  
**THOUGHT**  
THAT?!

ZZKTT

ZZZZKT

THE  
NETWORK'S  
**COMPROMISED!**  
SOMEONE'S INSIDE  
OUR--



CAN'T  
MOVE! CAN'T  
EVEN OPEN MY  
EYES! IT'S  
LIKE I...

I DON'T  
HAVE **MUSCLES**  
ANYMORE! OH  
GOD, KILL ME!  
SOMEONE--

MY  
**BONES!** I  
THINK I'M  
PUKING MY  
OWN--

BLAURRGCH!





OMEGA STRIKEFORCE TO BASE! IMMEDIATE EVAC NEEDED!

DAMMIT, PRIMUS, DO YOU COPY?!



ZZZKT

AARGH!



OH MY GOD!

SSHHHH, NOW.



CLEAR YOUR THOUGHTS.

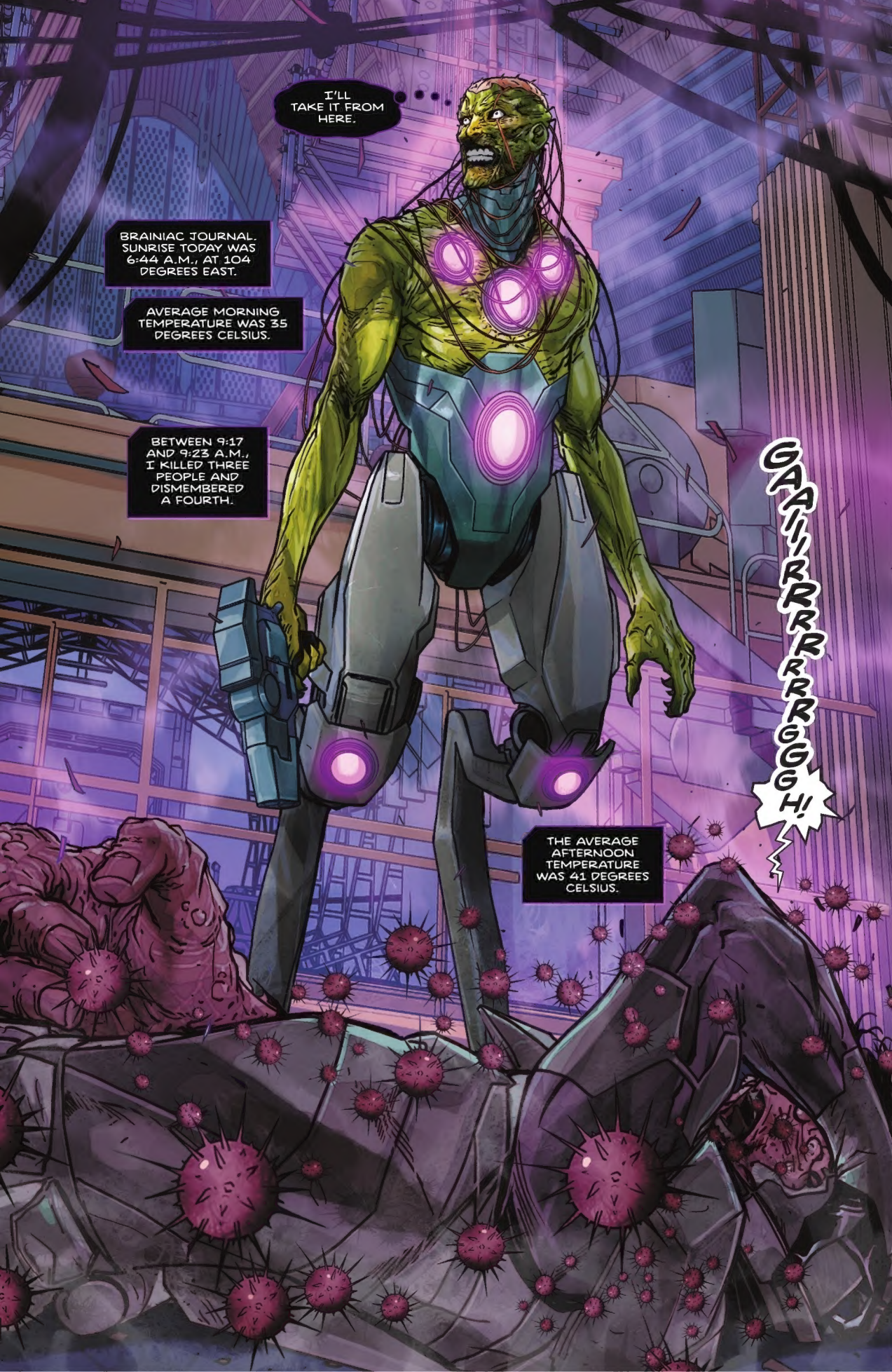
PLEASE, NO...



RELAX THAT LUSCIOUS BRAIN OF YOURS.

NNNEH...  
GARRGGH!



A large, green, muscular alien with a blue and silver mechanical suit stands amidst the ruins of a city. The alien has glowing purple eyes and chest pieces. It holds a blue mechanical device in its right hand. The background shows a destroyed city with twisted metal and debris. The ground is covered in dark, spiky, spherical objects.

I'LL  
TAKE IT FROM  
HERE.

BRAINIAC JOURNAL.  
SUNRISE TODAY WAS  
6:44 A.M., AT 104  
DEGREES EAST.

AVERAGE MORNING  
TEMPERATURE WAS 35  
DEGREES CELSIUS.

BETWEEN 9:17  
AND 9:23 A.M.,  
I KILLED THREE  
PEOPLE AND  
DISMEMBERED  
A FOURTH.

THE AVERAGE  
AFTERNOON  
TEMPERATURE  
WAS 41 DEGREES  
CELSIUS.

GALLRRRRRRGGH!













MAGGOTS!  
MORONS!

STOP



SQUISH



HMMRRPH.

MY...MY  
APOLOGIES.

I'M  
SORRY...YOU  
HAD TO SEE  
THAT.



I'M  
AFRAID I  
CAN...LOSE MY  
MIND A BIT  
WHEN I'M  
ANGRY.

SKRITCH  
SKLCH

I'VE TRIED  
CARVING  
THE OFFENDING  
PARTS OUT OF  
MY BRAIN,  
BUT...

...I  
SUPPOSE I'LL  
HAVE TO KEEP  
DIGGING.



ONCE I'VE SOLVED THIS  
SUPERMAN-SHAPED  
PUZZLE, THAT IS.

THAT'S  
WHAT THEY CALL  
HIM. THIS BOY WHO  
BENDS STEEL AND  
LEAPS THROUGH  
CLOUDS.

BUT NO  
ONE KNOWS WHO  
HE IS OR WHERE  
HE COMES FROM.  
AND RA'S AL GHUL  
IS GROWING  
IMPATIENT.



HMMRRPH.

YES, IT  
DOES...SEEM  
TO HELP WHEN  
I...WELL, YOU  
KNOW...

I...HAVEN'T  
ALWAYS HAD  
SOMEONE LIKE  
YOU.

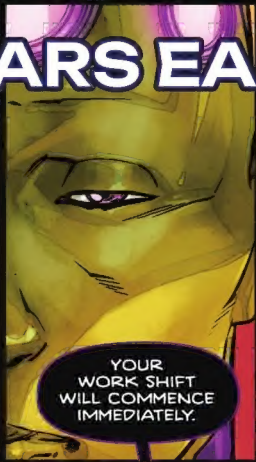
SOMEONE  
I COULD  
TALK TO.



# MANY YEARS EARLIER.



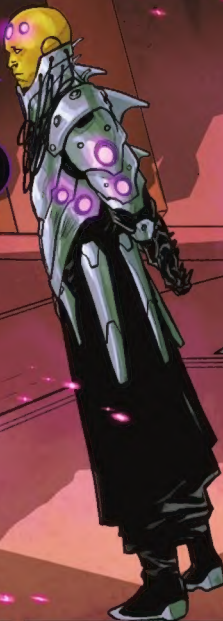
BRAINIAC  
419,732. BEGIN  
LIFE MODE.



YOUR  
WORK SHIFT  
WILL COMMENCE  
IMMEDIATELY.



I AM...  
**BRAINIAC?**



YOU ARE  
BRAINIAC  
419,732. YOU  
SERVE THE  
COLLECTIVE.

THE  
**COLLECTIVE?**  
WHAT IS...



ONLY LEVEL 88 EFFECTORS  
AND ABOVE ARE ALLOWED  
TO SEEK KNOWLEDGE BEYOND  
WHAT THEY WERE ENDOWED  
WITH AT CREATION.



I SEE,  
AND MAY I  
ASK...WHAT  
LEVEL AM  
I?



**ZERO.**



YOU WORK  
HERE. YOU  
ARE NEVER TO  
LEAVE THIS  
ROOM.

YOUR  
FUNCTION IS TO  
DISPOSE OF REFUSE  
BY SHOVELING  
IT INTO THE  
LIQUIDATOR.

THIS CONCLUDES  
THE EXTENT OF  
YOUR REQUIRED  
KNOWLEDGE.

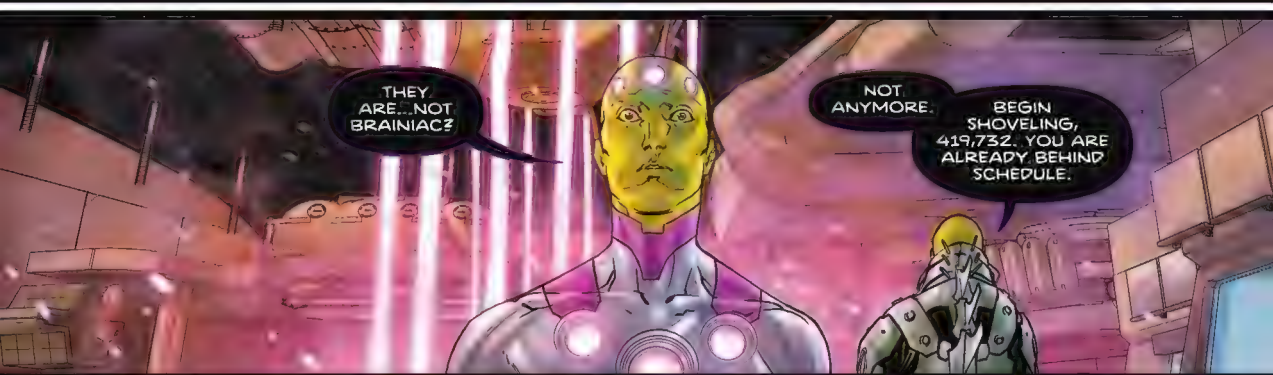
DO YOU  
UNDERSTAND  
YOUR FUNCTION  
AS I HAVE  
EXPLAINED IT TO  
YOU, BRAINIAC  
419,732?

REFUSE?  
WHAT IS  
REFUSE?





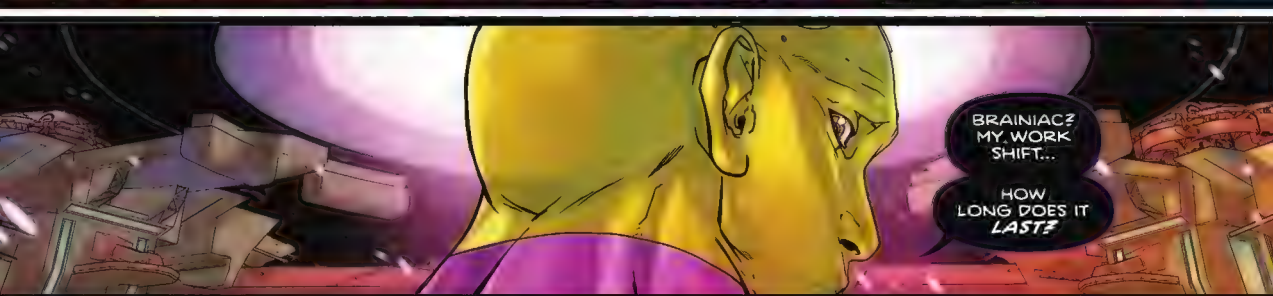
THEY  
ARE.



THEY  
ARE...NOT  
BRAINIAC?

NOT  
ANYMORE.

BEGIN  
SHOVELING,  
419,732. YOU ARE  
ALREADY BEHIND  
SCHEDULE.



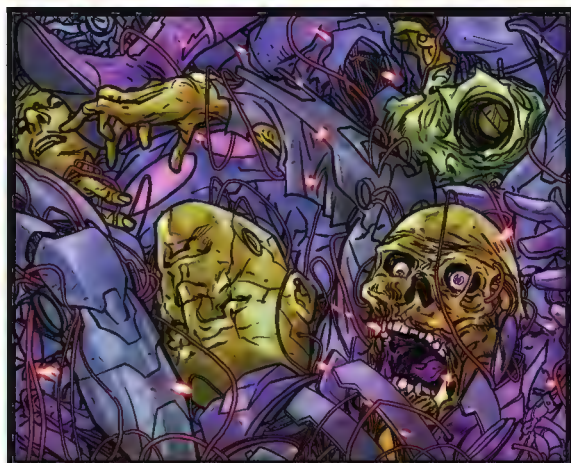
BRAINIAC?  
MY WORK  
SHIFT...

HOW  
LONG DOES IT  
LAST?



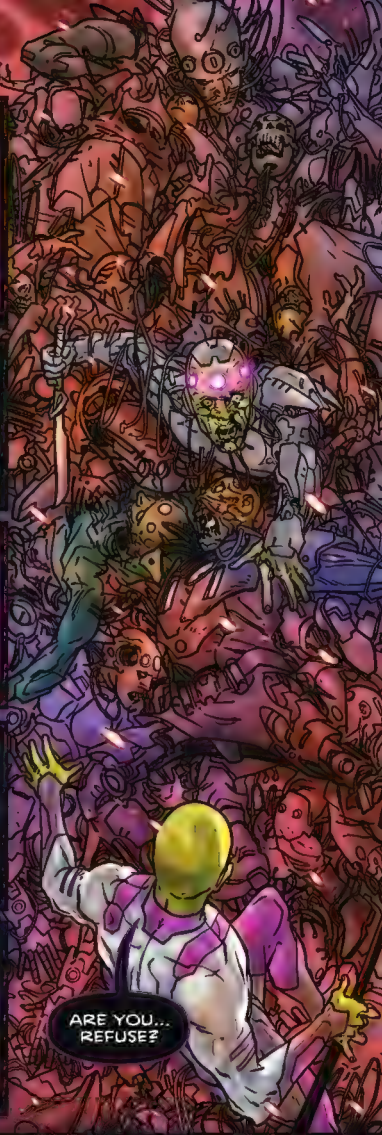
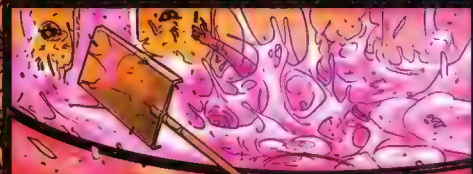
FOR  
AS LONG AS  
YOU DO.



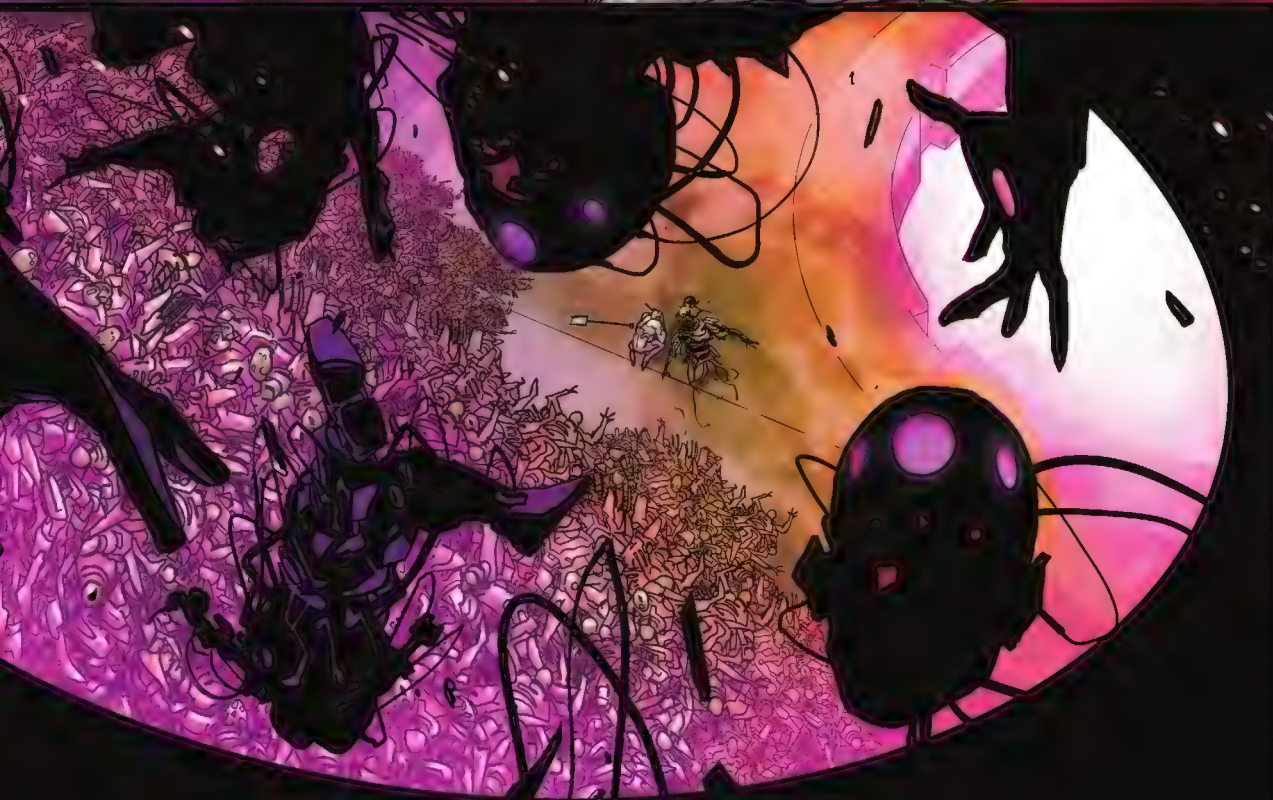
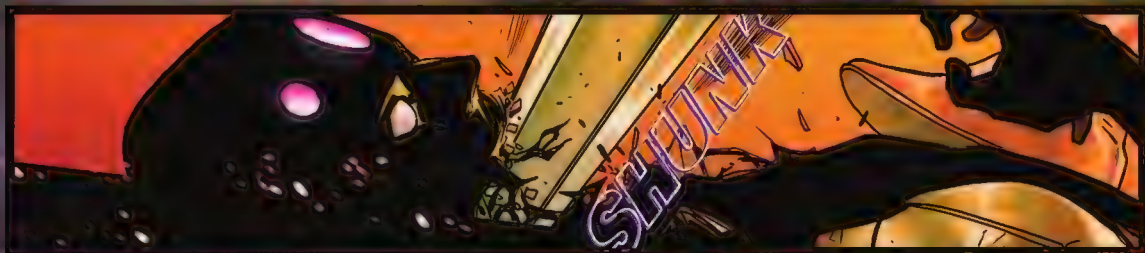
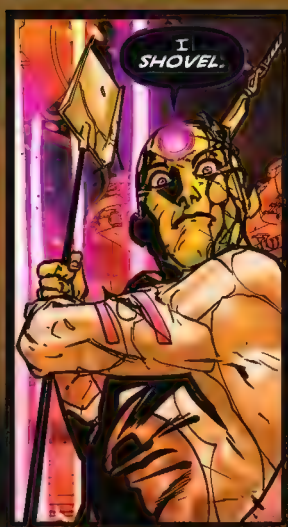
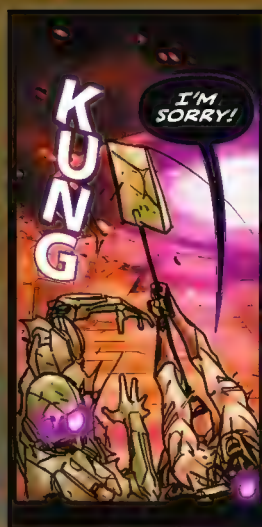




DAY 2,844.









DAY 13,638.

THANK  
YOU FOR  
AGREEING TO  
SEE ME.

SHUNK

I KNOW  
I'M ONLY A LEVEL  
ZERO EFFECTOR, BUT  
I APPRECIATE YOU  
RECOGNIZING THE  
QUALITY OF MY  
LABOR...

...AND  
ALLOWING ME  
THIS CHANCE TO  
PRESENT A  
QUERY.

ESTEEMED  
BRAINIACS OF THE  
COLLECTIVE...

...MY  
QUESTION  
IS...

...AM *I*...  
REFUSEZ?

HMMM. YES,  
I SEE. THAT'S  
AN INTERESTING  
PERSPECTIVE,  
BRAINIAC.

I SUPPOSE  
YOU'RE RIGHT.  
I *AM* RATHER  
SPECIAL, AREN'T  
I?

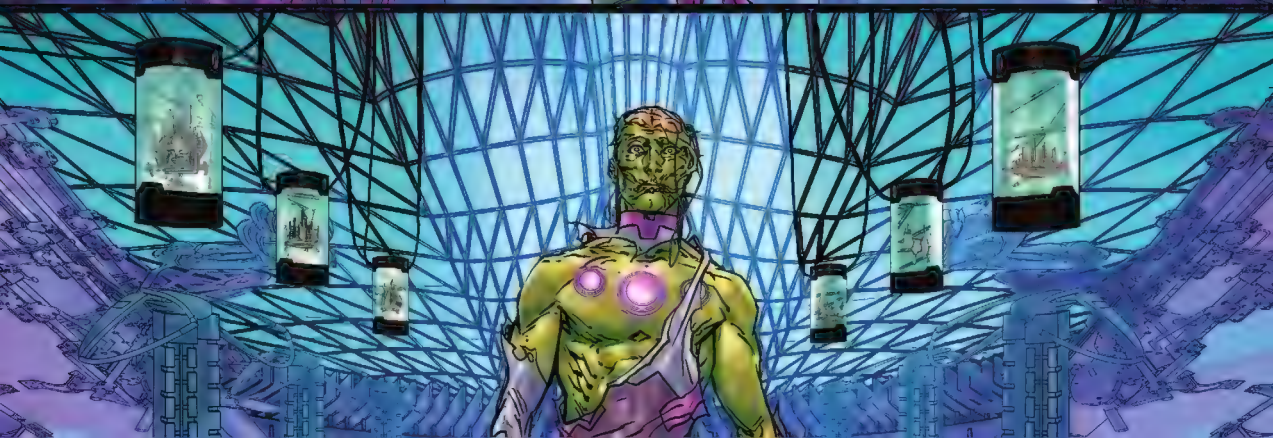
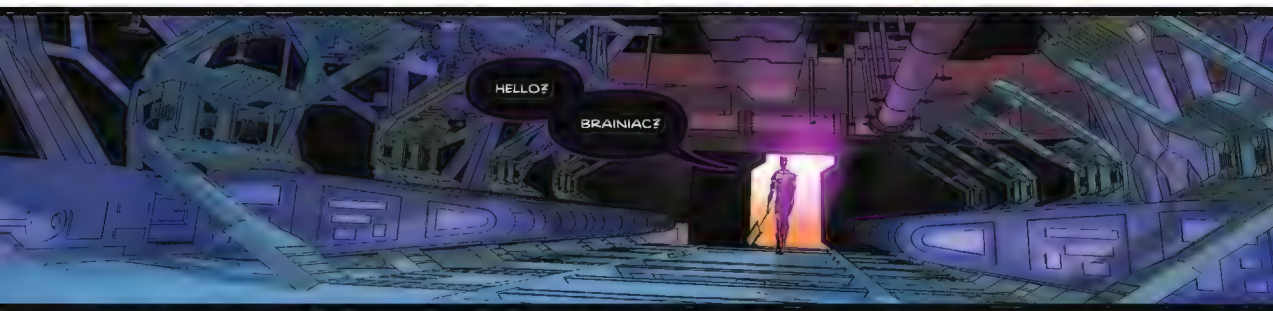
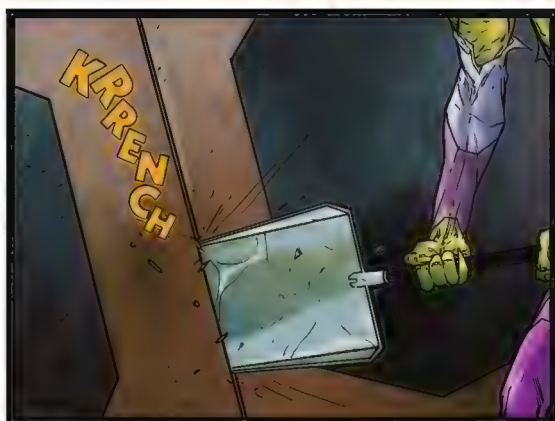
HA! HOW  
AMUSING! YOU  
ALWAYS SAY THE MOST  
*HUMOROUS* THINGS,  
BRAINIAC.

THANK YOU,  
BRAINIACS OF THE  
COLLECTIVE.

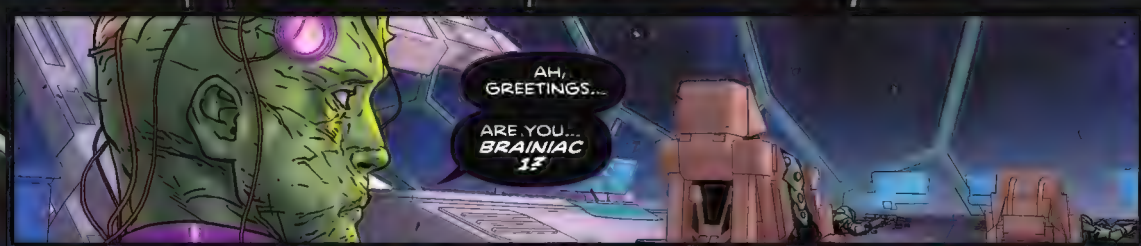
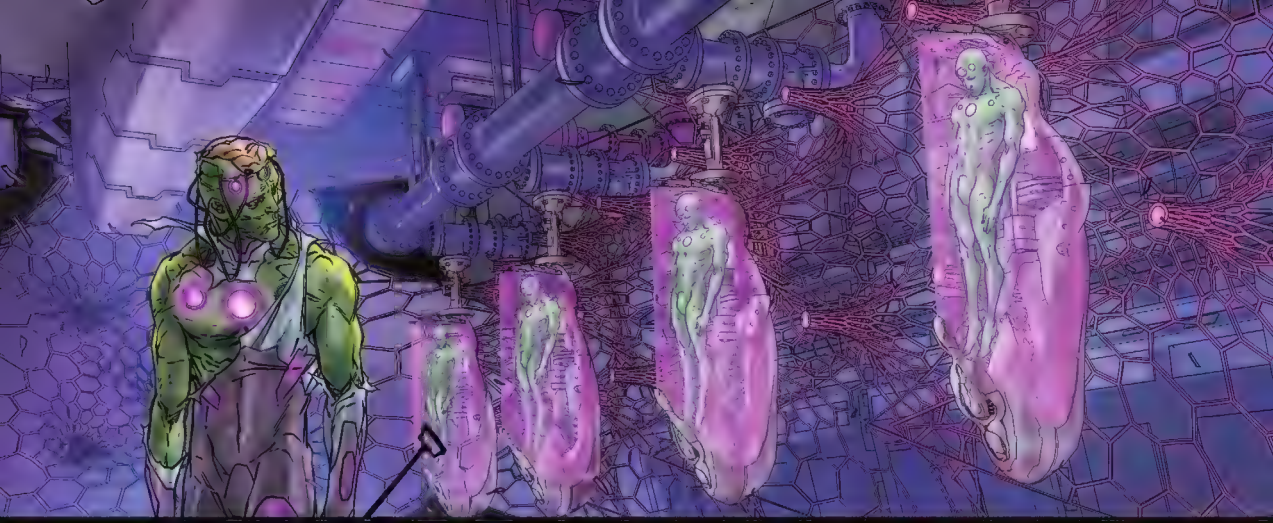
THANK  
YOU FOR  
BEING...MY  
*FRIENDS*.



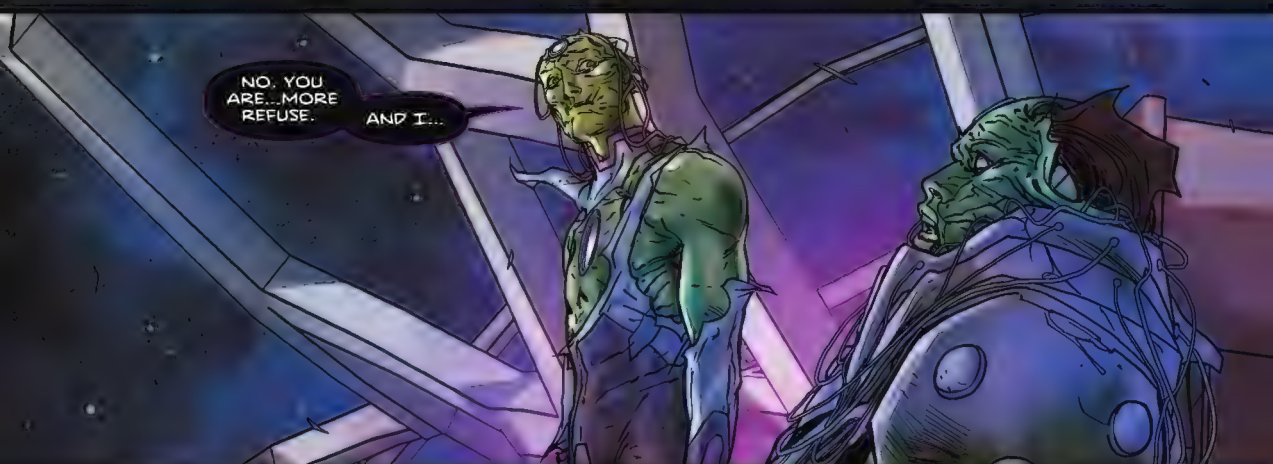
DAY 49,901.







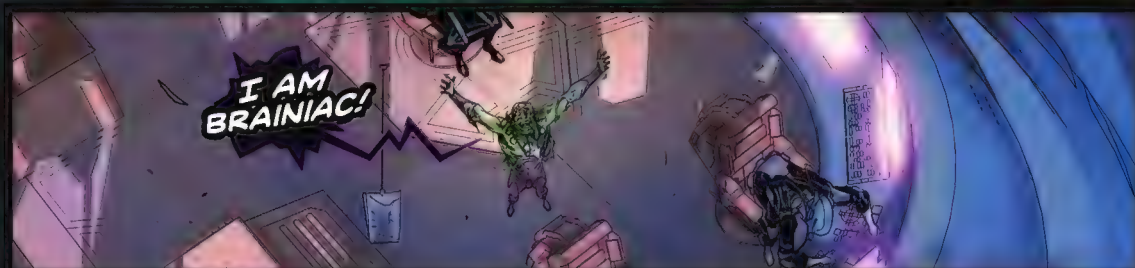




NO. YOU  
ARE...MORE  
REFUSE.

AND I...

I AM  
BRAINAC?



**I AM  
BRAINAC!**

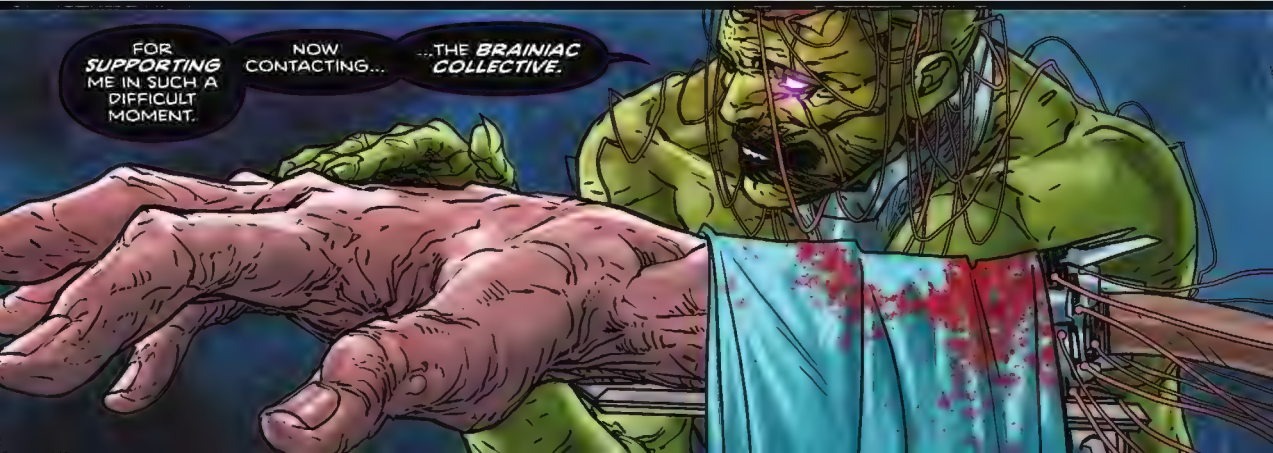
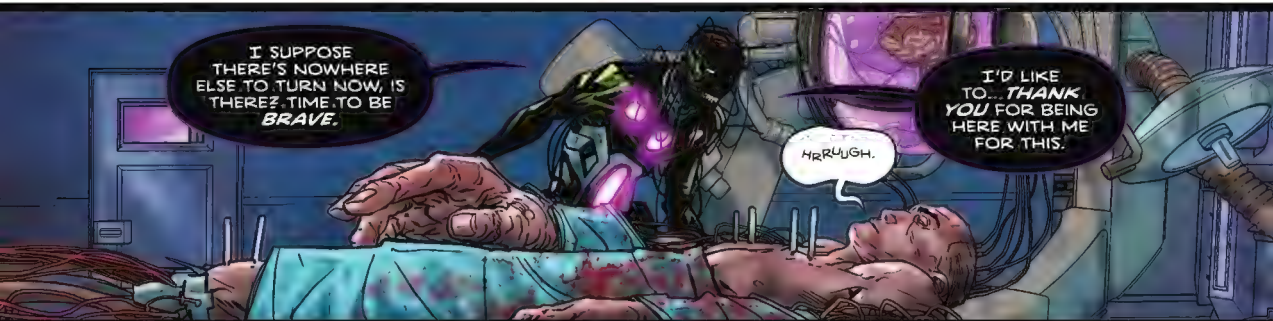
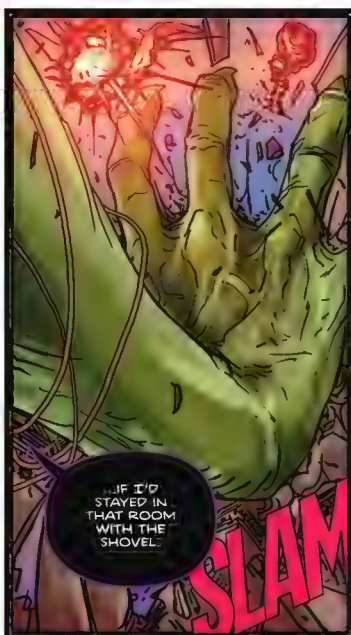
"THAT DAY, I SHOVELED MY  
LAST PIECE OF REFUSE. THEN  
OFFICIALLY PROMOTED MYSELF  
TO LEVEL 100 EFFECTOR.

"BUT MOSTLY I  
REMEMBER...SEEING  
THE *STARS* FOR THE  
VERY FIRST TIME.

"AND STARING AT  
THEM UNTIL MY EYES  
BEGAN TO MELT...

"...STARING AND  
*WONDERING...*"









THIS IS  
BRAINIAC  
667.666.

THIS  
IS BRAINIAC  
UNTRANSLATABLE  
WAILING  
SOUNDS

THIS IS  
BRAINIAC  
Q9-53X.

WHO  
CALLED THIS  
MEETING?



I DID.

SPEAK UP,  
BRAINIAC! WE  
CANNOT HEAR  
YOU!

SAHEM:  
I DID.

I SUBMIT TO  
THE COLLECTIVE,  
DATA RELATED  
TO A HUMANOID  
IDENTIFIED  
LOCALLY AS...  
**SUPERMAN.**



THE  
DOSSIER I HAVE  
UPLOADED INCLUDES  
CHEMICAL ANALYSIS  
OF A **RED DUST**  
LEFT IN HIS  
WAKE.

THIS  
BRAINIAC IS  
REQUESTING ANY  
AND ALL POSSIBLE  
LEADS RELATED TO  
THE SUBJECT'S  
IDENTITY AND/OR  
PLANET OF ORIGIN.

AH...  
PLEASE?



SUPERMAN?!  
WHAT IS THIS  
IDIOCY?!

THESE  
READINGS CANNOT  
BE ACCURATE! NO  
BEING IN THE KNOWN  
UNIVERSE POSSESSES  
THIS MANNER OF  
ABILITIES!

AND ALL  
THE UNIVERSE IS  
KNOWN TO THE  
COLLECTIVE!

PERHAPS  
HE IS ONE OF THE  
ADEPTS OF O.A. YOU  
SHOULD SEND YOUR  
INQUIRIES TO THE  
**BLACKSTARS.**

AND NEVER  
AGAIN WASTE  
THE TIME OF THIS  
COLLECTIVE WITH  
SUCH--

**KRYPTON.**





A  
PLANET IN THE  
RAO SECTOR. THE  
ONLY HABITABLE ORB  
TO SURVIVE THAT  
WITHERING RED  
SUN.

YOUR DUST  
SAMPLE MATCHES  
KRYPTON'S THERMAL  
SIGNATURE.



I SEE,  
AND WHAT IS  
KNOWN OF THIS  
"KRYPTON"?

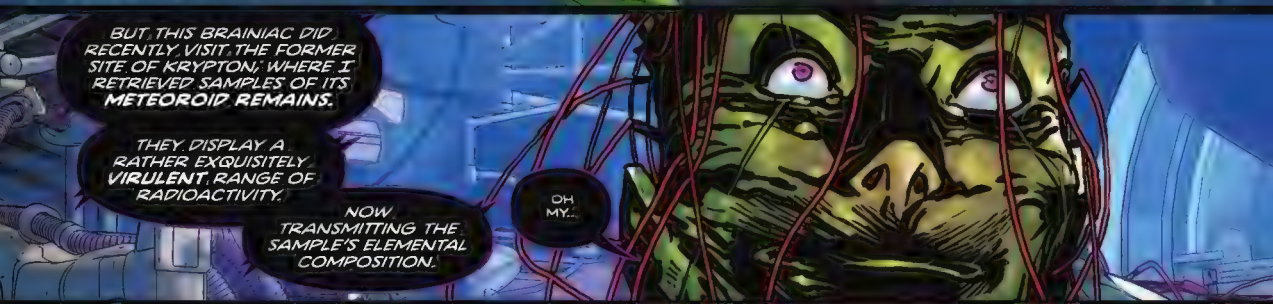
ONLY THAT  
IT WAS, AND  
THAT IT IS NO  
MORE.

KRYPTON  
EXPLODED.



NO BRAINIAC  
EVER SET FOOT  
UPON THE PLANET. IT  
NEVER WARRANTED  
THE INTEREST OF THE  
COLLECTIVE.

WHOEVER  
ITS PEOPLE WERE,  
THEY NEVER EVEN  
MANAGED TO DEVELOP  
INTERSTELLAR  
TRAVEL.



BUT THIS BRAINIAC DID  
RECENTLY VISIT THE FORMER  
SITE OF KRYPTON, WHERE I  
RETRIEVED SAMPLES OF ITS  
METEOROID REMAINS.

THEY DISPLAY A  
RATHER EXQUISITELY  
VIRULENT RANGE OF  
RADIOACTIVITY.

NOW  
TRANSMITTING THE  
SAMPLE'S ELEMENTAL  
COMPOSITION.

OH  
MY...

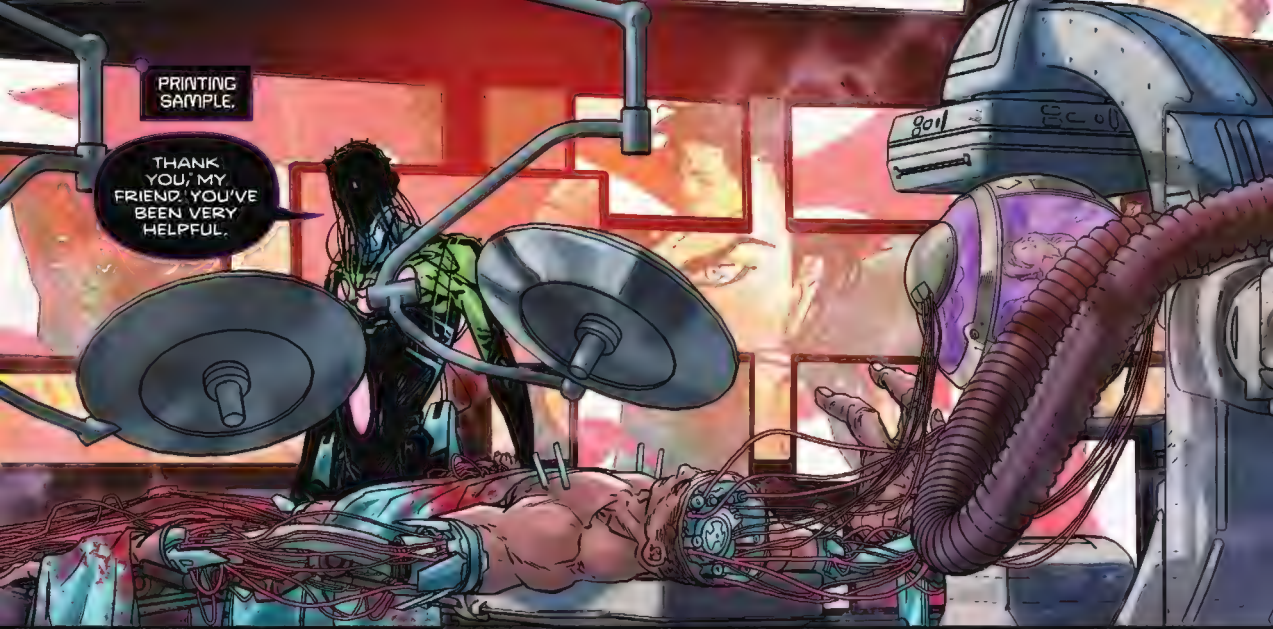


I HAVE A  
QUERY OF MY  
OWN... WHO IN THE  
NAME OF COLU  
CALLED THIS  
MEETING?

END  
TRANSMISSION.

UNKNOWN  
BRAINIAC,  
IDENTIFY  
YOURSELF  
AT--



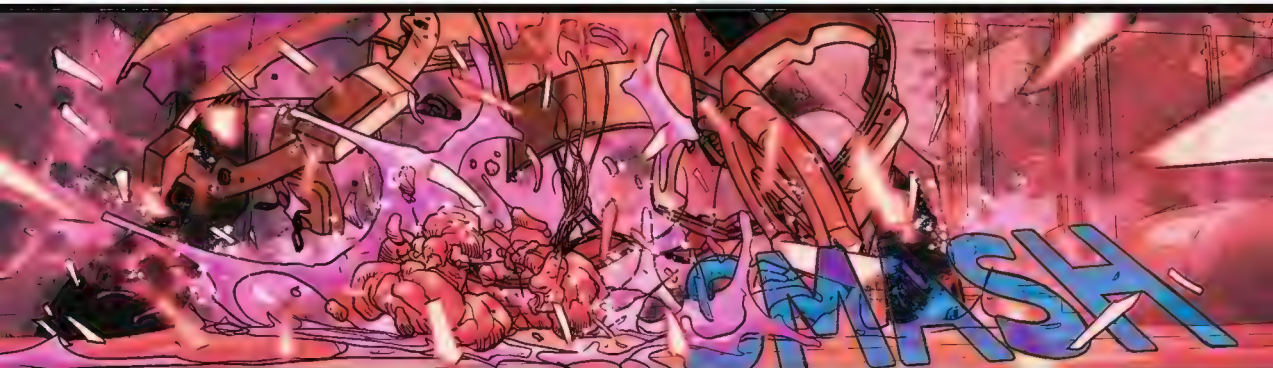


PRINTING  
SAMPLE.

THANK  
YOU, MY  
FRIEND. YOU'VE  
BEEN VERY  
HELPFUL.

YOU'RE  
A GOOD  
LISTENER.

BUT NOW, IF  
YOU'LL EXCUSE  
ME...



I HAVE WORK  
TO DO.

PRINTING  
COMPLETE.

PREPARE TO RUN  
TESTS. I WANT TO KNOW  
HOW THE KRYPTON METEORITE  
INTERACTS WITH THE DUST  
FROM SUPERMAN'S  
CAPE.

AND THEN SEND  
SOMEONE IN HERE  
TO CLEAN UP THIS  
REFUSE.

YES,  
BRAINIAC.



BRAINIAC JOURNAL.  
TONIGHT'S SUNSET WILL  
COME AT 5:26 P.M., AT  
257 DEGREES WEST.

AVERAGE NIGHTTIME  
TEMPERATURE WILL BE 6  
DEGREES CELSIUS, WITH  
NORTHWEST WINDS AT  
10 MILES PER HOUR.

AT 8:35 P.M., I WILL  
COMMAND ONE OF  
MY BRAINIACS TO  
IMMOLATE HIMSELF.

SO I MAY SPEND  
THREE MINUTES  
WATCHING HIM DIE.

YES,  
BRAINIAC.

YES,  
BRAINIAC.

WATCHING A PIECE OF  
MYSELF AS IT BLACKENS  
AND SHRIVELS.

SATURN WILL BE  
VISIBLE IN THE NIGHT  
SKY, AT 9:03 P.M.





**LATER.**

HE IS AN  
**ALIEN**. NOT  
EVEN OF THIS  
WORLD.

TELL ME,  
**PEACEMAKER**  
**SMITH**, HOW DOES  
THAT MAKE YOU  
FEEL?

**AAAIIIIARRRG GGH!**

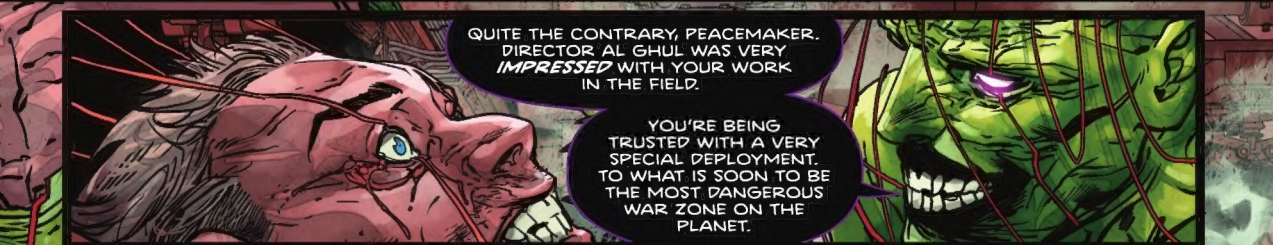


GOOD. PAIN IS  
PROGRESS.

YOUR  
**IMPLANTS** ARE  
RESPONDING  
NICELY.

WHAT...THE  
HELL IS THIS?  
PUNISHMENT FOR  
PAKISTAN?

**JUST  
KILL ME  
ALREADY!**



QUITE THE CONTRARY, **PEACEMAKER**.  
**DIRECTOR AL GHUL** WAS VERY  
**IMPRESSED** WITH YOUR WORK  
IN THE FIELD.

YOU'RE BEING  
TRUSTED WITH A VERY  
SPECIAL DEPLOYMENT.  
TO WHAT IS SOON TO BE  
THE MOST DANGEROUS  
WAR ZONE ON THE  
PLANET.



A PLACE  
CALLED  
**KANSAS**.

**NEXT: DEATH COMES TO SMALLVILLE!**



# ABSOLUTE SUPERMAN

JASON AARON *WRITER*  
CARMINE DI GIANDOMENICO *ARTIST*  
ULISES ARREOLA *COLORIST*  
BECCA CAREY *LETTERER*

RAFA SANDOVAL & ULISES ARREOLA *COVER*

DAN PANOSIAN, LEIRIX, JORGE MOLINA  
*VARIANT COVERS*

## SUPERMAN, SON OF THE DEMON

ASH PADILLA  
*ASSISTANT EDITOR*  
CHRIS CONROY  
*EDITOR*

### PROLOGUE

#### A MIND IS A TERRIBLE THING

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY  
SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER. BY SPECIAL  
ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY  
SIEGEL FAMILY.



**ROBIN IS  
MISSING.**

**CAN A DESPERATE  
BATMAN SAVE HIS  
SON BEFORE IT'S  
TOO LATE?**

# **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**

**#21**

© & TM DC.

Written by  
**PHILLIP  
KENNEDY  
JOHNSON**

Art by  
**JAVI  
FERNÁNDEZ**



**ALL IN**

**MAY**



# THE POWER COMPANY

**ALL IN** **RECHARGED**

## INTERVIEW WITH BRYAN EDWARD HILL

Get ready to power up with the Power Company! Acclaimed writer Bryan Edward Hill takes us inside *The Power Company: Recharged* #1, where a new team assembles to take on new enemies, rebuild trust in heroes, and carve out their place in the DC Universe.

### What makes this special the perfect entry point for new fans?

I like one-shots and minis specifically because new readers can come aboard and not be completely lost in the thick forest of continuity. We have a simple setup here: Someone was killed, and we need to find the killer before they kill again. Perhaps I'm a little more interested in the interior aspects of these characters than monthly books often explore. I'm likely doing something a little more intense. A little darker. My imagination tends to work that way. I'm drawn to intensity of experience and the dangerous aspects of human nature.

### What can readers expect from Jace Fox's journey?

In many ways, I don't think someone CAN inherit "Batman." Batman is so specific to Bruce Wayne. It's his trauma, his nightmares, his collective experience that led him to create that persona. How do you inherit something like that? How can you simply step into it? I don't think you can, and that's where Jace finds himself. He is this thing that was a creation of someone else, that has value from years of activity in Gotham City, and he's got to find his own way inside of that. To me, he feels like someone seeking a way to be this fully formed icon but expressing himself honestly through that.

### Why was Atlanta the right setting for this story, and how does it shape the tone of the series?

Ostensibly, comic book universes take place across the whole world, but we often get reduced to the kitchen-table-knowledge fictional cities. It felt interesting to bring a story to an American city that isn't often associated with superheroes but is an important city in the diaspora of the American consciousness.

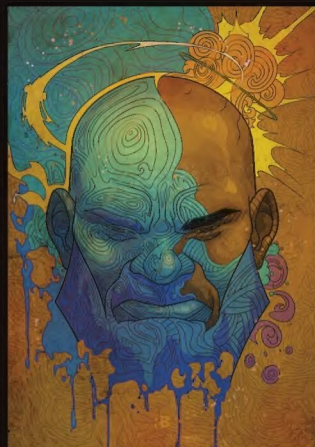
### What are you most looking forward to in collaborating with Khary Randolph, Alitha Martinez, and Ray-Anthony Height?

I've known Khary for a very long time. I believe this might be the first time I've worked with him on a project. I've known him since my earliest days in NYC. He was aspirational to many of us. When I met him, he was already in the center of a great career, already known as a brilliant illustrator. To finally work with him is a pleasure. Alitha and Ray-Anthony are also very, very good. I think they'll give a satisfying, art-forward experience.

**DON'T MISS**  
**THE POWER COMPANY:**  
**RECHARGED #1,**  
**ON SALE NOW!**



*The Power Company: Recharged* #1 variant cover by Sanford Greene



*The Power Company: Recharged* #1 variant cover by Ryan Benjamin



*The Power Company: Recharged* #1 main cover by Edwin Galmon

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